--- “Series of 1887” - 3 Cigars - BLUE - 4th BABN Contract (1886-1892) ---

--- recess printed by hand press on vertical mesh wove - 280 x 12 mm - 4 mm red controls ---

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The catalogue lists the recess printed blue three cigar “Series of 1887” strip as follows:

RG-381 - 3 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, recess printed on horizontal mesh wove, with 4 mm. Montreal red controls

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4th BABN Contract (1886-1892) John McKay records 19,900 *recess printed* by hand press copies of “3 Blue Cigars” as delivered. This is his only entry for the strip.

4th BABN Contract 19,900 recess printed by hand press **000001** to **019900**

The Budget of 1885 doubled the taxation on *Foreign leaf* cigars from $ 3.00 to $ 6.00 per pound, and on cigars made from *Domestic leaf* from $ 1.50 to $ 3.00 per pound, and smaller packages were introduced. The introduction of the ten cigar strip was possibly precipitated by the higher tax rate. The *Foreign leaf* cigar tax was raised to $ 7.00 per pound on packages of less than ten cigars. The production of the three cigar strip had hastened this legislation imposing a higher tax on packages smaller than ten cigars. In 1891 this ‘small package’ tax was extended to include *Domestic Leaf* cigars at $ 3.50 per pound. The 55 mm ‘Montreal’ imprint was placed in the sleevage at the top and at the bottom of the pane of strips - scanned at 200% scale

--- RG-381 - *coarse roulette* - recess printed on vertical mesh wove - 280 x 12 mm - scanned at 60% scale ---

★**RG-381** - 3 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove, with 4 mm. control **009772**

006035★	RG-381 CP	3 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove, stamped **CANCELLED** in 3 mm. Gothic letters
006047	RG-381	3 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
007039	RG-381 CP	3 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove, stamped **CANCELLED** in 3 mm. Gothic letters
009377	RG-381	3 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
009395	RG-381	3 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
009454★	RG-381	3 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
009455	RG-381	3 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
009601-20★	RG-381	3 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove a sheet of twenty, 55 mm “Montreal” imprint at top and bottom
009625★	RG-381	3 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
009772★	RG-381	3 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
009774	RG-381	3 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
009823	RG-381	3 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
009847	RG-381	3 cigars, blue, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove

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